

## HB 597 -- Motorcycle Helmets

Sponsor: Spencer

Currently, every person operating or riding as a passenger on any motorcycle or motortricycle upon any state highway must wear protective headgear when the vehicle is in motion. This bill specifies that this provision will not apply to a person 18 years of age or older operating a motorcycle or motortricycle when the person has obtained a helmet-free endorsement from the Department of Revenue. The department must issue this endorsement when the applicant provides proof of personal injury protection insurance in an amount of at least \$20,000 that has been in effect for at least two years.

At the time the helmet endorsement is issued, the department must issue the applicant a small circular sticker indicating the expiration year of the insurance policy which is to be placed on the licensee's motorcycle license plate. The cost of the new driver's license issued with the helmet-free endorsement and the license plate sticker must be paid by the motorcycle licensee.